

Tour the United States Capitol

The Capitol Visitors Center (CVC) was opened in December, 2008 to accommodate the thousands of visitors to the United States Capitol each year. From here, the public can take a guided tour of the Capitol led by experts on its history and the history of the United States Congress.

Beyond serving as a staging area for tours, the CVC also houses a museum on the United States Congress, gift shops, and a restaurant. The public is encouraged to visit these, free of charge, even if they are not taking a tour.

The CVC is open to the public between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday with group tours conducted between 8:50 a.m. and 3:20 p.m. Tours last approximately 90 minutes.

Making a Tour Request

All tours of the United States Capitol require advanced reservations which you can make by calling my Washington, D.C. office at (202) 225-4011. My staff will ask for your trip dates and the number of people in your group so that they can reserve a tour time that works with your schedule. I highly recommend making these reservations far in advance of your trip to ensure that optimal times are available. Slots fill quickly and can become scarce at busy times of the year, especially March and April (for spring break) and during the summer months.

Please be mindful that tours depart the CVC at their scheduled time. You should arrive 15-30 minutes early so that you have time to proceed through security and the check-in line.

Please visit the Capitol Visitors Center [website](#) for complete in-depth information on tours of the United States Capitol.